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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. I am privileged to present to the Senate, and I do so with great pleasure, our guest Chaplain, Rev. Barbara Spies-Scott, of Hedgesville, WV.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Our Father and our God, Creator of Heaven and Earth and all the inhabitants in it, we give You glory, honor, and praise for all You have done for us, even when we don't deserve it. The problems we face today are numerous and difficult. You told us in Luke 1:37 that "with God nothing shall be impossible." You also said in Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." May we humble ourselves and acknowledge You as our Lord and Saviour.

Dear God, the heart of the world is crying for peace, and the Scriptures tell us that You are the Prince of Peace and that we are to strive to be peacemakers. Lord, revive Your work of peacemaking in the hearts and minds of the men and women of this Senate. Give them the wisdom to know what is right and the courage to do it. Strengthen them in body, soul, and spirit. May each one be open to hear Your still, small voice for guidance and direction in every decision they make. May You always be their guiding force. We must, as the most powerful Nation in the world, let God be our guiding force. I pray this in Your holy name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROBERT C. BYRD, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate is going to proceed shortly to a period of morning business until 10:15 this morning. Thereafter, Senator DODD and Senator MCCONNELL will begin their managing of the election reform bill. They desire this legislation be completed today. It would really be good if we could do that. So I ask on behalf of Senator DODD that Senators who have amendments come and offer them. We had a few that were accepted last night. There is going to be an amendment offered at 10:15 today that will begin these deliberations.

### CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, let me briefly say, personally this is a day of celebration for me based upon the fact when I first came down here, campaign finance laws were such that the only money people were able to obtain was the money they would get from individuals. Since then, we have developed this system where people are going around picking up money from corporations. Corporation money should not be part of Federal elections. Enron is a perfect example. I hope everyone will understand what a happy day it should be in Washington as a result of what the House did last night.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a

period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:15 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and with the first 20 minutes to be under the control of the Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, and the Senator from Nebraska, Mr. HAGEL.

The Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, is recognized.

### THE NEW HOMESTEAD ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today to talk about S. 1860, a piece of legislation I have introduced in the Senate along with my colleague, Senator HAGEL, from the State of Nebraska. I want to describe what this legislation does and what it is.

I ask the Presiding Officer if I could be notified when I have consumed 10 minutes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will be so notified.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the legislation we have introduced is the New Homestead Economic Opportunity Act. The President pro tempore will remember well the old Homestead Act in this country. We decided to try to populate the middle of this country well over a century ago by offering land to people who would move to the center of the country and work to improve the land. They would start a farm, start a family, and the Federal Government would give them 160 acres of land. That was called the Homestead Act.

Let me describe what has happened to the middle part of our country in the last 50 years or so and why there is a need for a new Homestead Act now. No, it is not to give land away, because we don't have more land to give away, but to develop unique and different approaches through a New Homestead Economic Opportunity Act.

This is a map of the United States of America. The red areas on this map are the rural counties that have lost at

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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